

WHAT NATIVE NORTHERNER SAYS OF CRIME IN SOUTH

He Believes There is Less Drinking and Fewer Murders in the South

(Bion H. Butler in Southern Pines Tourist.)

The average Northern man has an idea that the men of the South are quick on the trigger.

The other day I picked up a paper from Washington county, Pennsylvania, which noted the fact that about a dozen murder cases were to be tried or had been tried in the county within a year. A McKean county paper not long ago told of four murder trials at one session of court, if I remember aright. And Allegheny county has so many murder trials that such cases excite no comment.

The counties of Pennsylvania that are most familiar to me are pretty busy at court weeks trying murder cases. But I do not observe many such cases in the counties of my neighborhood down this way.

I have no idea of the relative frequency of murder, but it seems to me that our people of this section are little lambs alongside of the blood-thirsty people of the North.

I don't just now recall a murder trial in this county since I have been here, which is six years, although it is possible such have occurred and either been forgotten or not known to me. But certainly we do not hear of murders in this section of the country nearly as frequently as we read of them in Pennsylvania papers.

It is just like the reputation attributed to the Southern man for drinking whiskey. As compared with the fellow at the North, the governors of North and South Carolina would be primer-class scholars. Robert Glenn, a man who recently left the executive chair of this State, has been touring the North on a lecture expedition, and few men anywhere are more pronounced and convincing prohibitionists than he is. The vices of the South are seen by the North with a magnifying glass, and why I cannot understand. At the present time nearly every Southern State is a prohibition State, and if anybody tells you that prohibition does not have an influence on the sale of liquor, you tell him just as far as you have confidence in what I say that that man has another guess.

Our prohibition laws lessen the use of liquor, and they lessen the murders and the crimes of various kinds that liquor incites, and these prohibition laws help to make of the South one of the most lawless sections of the country.

There is a certain amount of gun play in certain parts of the South. The tobacco outrages in Kentucky must be counted as one of the inexcusable affairs that no State and no people should tolerate for a minute. Possibly the North may say that such things would not be permitted up that way, but I remember the riots at Pittsburgh when the Pennsylvania station and the elevator and several millions of dollars' worth of property were in the hands of the rioters. I was in the hard coal country when the Molly Maguires made that section dangerous for a man who let his right hand know what his left hand thought. I have not forgotten the burning of the public buildings in Cincinnati. I recall yet the Haymarket murders in Chicago.

All of this leads me to believe that human nature breaks out in about the same lawless manner any place when common sense gives way to hatred.

But aside from these extremes I do not think that the men of the South have recourse to the gun any more frequently than the people do in any section of the country.

One thing that strikes me as singular is the vastly greater amount of tobacco used in the North than in the South. North Carolina raises more tobacco than any State in the Union except Kentucky and sells it to the North and to Europe. The famous Durham smoking tobacco came from this State, and an enormous quantity of plug tobacco. But you will not see the native with a pipe or cigar once while you see the man from the North light a half dozen cigars. Tobacco chewing is more common than smoking.

As I cipher it out, the South is closer to the Puritan atmosphere today than any other section of the Union, for it is not yet so closely in touch with the commercial spirit which seems to be making the difference between the old and the new.

Puritanism may be looked upon as a purely New England condition, and if we go by the name alone that may be the case. But the Calvinist of the Carolinas and the Puritan of the Eastern States brought with them the same frigid and austere ideas. It is still a fact that "Ye cannot serve God and mammon," and where business comes to be the first god the religious fervor has a taint of indifference. Wherever in this United States industry has captured the country the rigid

customs of long ago have been mollified.

The South has not yet progressed as far industrially and commercially as the north and has not drifted so far from the original theories. The old tone is more apparent. Cities have not arisen yet on a scale large enough to bury the individual, so in the country the folks meet at the church on Sunday and make it their business to know a little of every man's business, and to see that he walks circumspectly, and that the children are taught the catechism and to venerate the Sabbath day.

Yet there is a perceptible change in the South in this respect, and I can see that it is where the rural North was thirty or forty years ago, and with probably the same future ahead, for the same influences are working here now that led to a freer atmosphere up that way.

As towns grow into cities men allow each other more latitude, and in the big city who knows what his next door neighbor's religious and moral code is? In the city every man is a law unto himself except when he gets so liberal as to encounter a policeman.

So that brings us to the real facts of the case. It is not the South where men toy with human life or drink whiskey or do things that should not be done. It is in the cities. In the rural region human morals are measured by a higher standard. Where every man is the arbiter of every man's case all are held in line by a common public sentiment. In the city, where nobody is amenable to any one until he bumps against the police or the criminal courts, it is different. The people of the city are not bad. But in the city the bad can hide. So vice centers in the cities and hides itself there. Don't be afraid of the man with a gun in the South. The place to fear that sort of an individual is New York, Chicago or some other center of vast population and there is the place to fear vice in every form.

"THE SOUTHERNER"

Prof. Bruce Craven Scores The Anti-Southern Book

A Review of the Autobiography of Nicholas Worth From the Viewpoint of a Southerner Who is Proud He is One—His Criticism Was Not Given Out by the Publishers.

The publishers of "The Autobiography of Nicholas Worth, Southerner," recently sent out a thousand complimentary copies to prominent educators in the South, with the statement that a prominent citizen of Louisiana had been so impressed with the book that he desired to pay for this thousand of copies to be given to the educators with the one requirement that each of them write his opinion of the book to the publishers. This was two months ago, and nothing has been given out by the publishers, but the following is the reply sent by Mr. Bruce Craven, superintendent of the city schools of Kingston.

February 16, 1910.
Doubleday-Page Co., Publishers,
New York City.

Dear Sirs: In response to your request and a complimentary copy of the Southerner, I herewith present to you my opinion of it. The copy was sent to me as one of a thousand "prominent Southern educators," at the expense of an interested citizen of Louisiana, and with the agreement that I write this review. I presume that the reviews would be of no value to you if they were all alike, and that you desire a frank expression from each, whether it be favorable or not. It is in accord with this understanding that I am writing.

I read the "Southerner" when it appeared in the Atlantic Monthly, and did not like it. I have re-read it in book form and endeavored to see only the good and none of the bad in it, but I could not do it. My earnest effort and my consequent failure reminded me of Bill Arp's reply to the president's proclamation for all rebels to disperse. Bill said he went out in the pines and lay down flat on the ground and tried his best to disperse, but he just could not do it.

I am a Southerner—at home, and glad of it. I know I have some prejudices, and I have never boasted of being more broadminded than the average of my fellow-men. I know I have no bitterness in my heart toward the North or any other section, but if a Southerner is constitutionally different from other human beings, then I can only say that I was born one, am not ashamed of it, and have no reason to think that a geographical mistake was made in my creation. This states my point of view and serves to show why it is impossible for me to "disperse."

I tried sincerely to get the author's point of view. I know him to be a man of unusual ability, yet no more

EVERY FARMER SHOULD READ



AND THE

Weekly News and Observer

ONLY \$1.00 THE YEAR
FOR BOTH OF THESE PAPERS

Send in Your Subscription Today

50c
For Six Months

30c
For Three Months

Address

SUBSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT, FARMER & MECHANIC,
RALEIGH, N. C.

able than any one of his brothers who stayed at home. In his chosen work he found great obstacles in the South where fate had placed him, and instead of taking arms against the "sea of troubles" as his brothers did, he decided that "tis nobler in the mind" to turn his back on them, go to a land of "freedom and opportunity" and there theorize and advise with the ones who were at home bearing the burdens in re-creating a commonwealth from the ruins of the broadminded robbers of reconstruction. This, as I see it, is the whole story of the Southerner, though this is merely the opinion of a Southerner unashamed of one who is ashamed. From the author's "perspective," of which he is so proud, everything in the South is logically wrong. A monument to Grant is righteousness, while one to Lee is narrow-minded sectionalism. The Grand Army, which protests against Lee's statue at Washington is broad, and the Daughters of the Confederacy from whom have never come one word of hatred are objects of contempt.

Please excuse me if I go no further. Every page in the book, as I see it, is an adroit expression of contempt for the South and for the men and women who have made it what it is, and of glorification of the one who failed her in the hour of need and went forth to pastures more pleasant. The brothers of the author stayed at home. They are men who agree with him largely in his political views, but they stayed, they built railroads, they developed a great section of the State, they today occupy high places at home no less honorable than that of the Southerner abroad who looks upon them with contempt.

In conclusion permit me to say that the Southerner, in my honorable opinion, is the worst book that has been published in all the tirade against the South, and that the real autobiography of the real Southerner is yet to be written and can be written only beneath Southern skies.

Cordially yours,
BRUCE CRAVEN.

World's Visible Supply.

New Orleans, Feb. 17.—Secretary Hester's statement of the world's visible supply of cotton issued today shows the total visible to be 4,666,203, against 4,693,368 last week, and 5,594,075 last year. Of this the total of American cotton is 3,370,203, against 3,421,368 last week, and 4,419,075 last year; and of all other kinds, including Egypt, Brazil, India, etc., 1,296,000, against 1,272,000 last week, and 1,175,000 last year.

Of the world's visible supply of cotton there is now afloat and held in Great Britain and Continental Europe 2,536,000, against 3,262,000 last year; in Egypt, 196,000, against 310,000 last year; in India, 632,000, against 465,000 last year, and in the United States 1,302,000, against 1,557,000 last year.

Real Line FREE to introduce this as Patent. KINGFISHER hook Pat. Aug. 3, 1908; catches two fish to the common hook's one. AGENTS wanted. Send 10c stamps for one KINGFISHER hook, 15c silver fish, 10c Cincinnati bass hooks and three good strong lines, 10c Cincinnati bass hooks and three good strong lines, postpaid. 7,000 were sold in one city in one year by agents. FARMER BOOK CO., Room 29 OVENHOLM, N.Y.

FIGHT ON MEAT QUESTION

ATTORNEY CARTER MAKES SENSATIONAL STATEMENT AND RETIRES FROM INVESTIGATION.

Asheville, Feb. 19.—The fight of the Central Labor union to repeal the three-quarter-mile limit against the sale of meats, claimed to be a discrimination in favor of dealers in city market, has reached a most critical point.

Declaring that he could obtain justice in courts sooner than from the aldermanic investigation committee, looking into the market house situation, Frank Carter, Thursday night declined to cross-examine certain market men witnesses before the committee and withdrew from the meeting with a large following of labor men.

Today a test case was begun. S. K. Carter, a dealer outside the three-quarter-limit delivering meat inside and was arrested. The case will be pushed rapidly through the courts to test the validity of the law which has for more than ten years been in the city code.

The aldermanic committee continued the investigation and will make a report later. They declare they will not be influenced by sensational steps taken by labor men with view of "browbeating" them into favorable decisions. The union men contend that the central market house maintains a trust.

Cotton Movement.

(By the Associated Press.)
New York, Feb. 18.—The following statistics on the movement of cotton for the week ending Feb. 18, were compiled by the New York Cotton Exchange:

Weekly Movement.		
	This Year.	Last Year.
Port receipts	104,268	142,140
Overland to mills and		
Canada	14,421	33,124
Southern Mill Tak-		
ings (estimated) ..	50,000	45,000
Losses of Stock at		
Interior Towns ...	16,617	4,459
Brought into Sight		
for week	152,072	215,805
Total Crop Movement.		
Port receipts	5,912,397	8,034,062
Overland to mills		
and Canada ...	592,643	919,767
Southern mill tak-		
ings (est.) ...	1,675,000	1,790,000
Stock at interior		
towns in excess		
of Sept. 1.....	541,158	627,116
Brought into sight		
thus far or sea-		
son	8,722,198	11,370,945

Economists.

(Chicago News.)
Jack Spratt could eat no fat.
His wife could eat no lean;
But now the two they will eschew
And eat the humble bean.